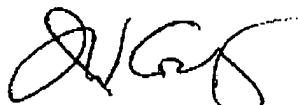


## REMARKS

In response to the Restriction Requirement, the applicant elects Group I, claims 1-14 with traverse as there is a technical relationship between the separately grouped claims. The species that is elected is the species where the blend is composed of a copper (II) salt of acetylsalicylic acid which correspond to formula (I) when X=Y= oxygen; R<sub>1</sub> = copper (II); R<sub>2</sub> = an acyl group, COR' in which R' = methyl; n = 0 and the acid/copper ratio is equal to 2:1. When n = 0, R<sub>3</sub> is not present and is therefore not specified. Claims 1-14 are identified as reading on the elected species.

The claims of the present application have a technical relation in that they are chemical compounds, compositions of the chemical compounds and methods of using the chemical compounds. Under the ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS UNDER THE PCT, page AI-58, which is available as Annex B to APPENDIX T of the MPEP, if there is a technical relation between the separately grouped claims, restriction should not be required. In this case there is a sufficient technical basis on which to link the claims. The cited reference, Dean, is only concerned with amine salts of salicylic acid and this patent does not render the claims of the present application unpatentable. For these reasons, it is requested that the restriction requirement be withdrawn and an action be given on all claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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